

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 00613 281718Z

73

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7819

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT ETRD

SUBJECT: G-18: LOCAL REPS MEETING, JANUARY 27

REF: STATE 19368

1. DG LONG PROPOSED AGENDA FOR FEB 24-25 GATT G-18 MEETING INCLUDE (1) ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS, (2) TRADE MEASURES TAKEN FOR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS REASONS, (3) INTERNATIONAL TRADE SYSTEM AND GATT'S ROLE, (4) RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY AND (5) OTHER BUSINESS. FOR ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS, LONG HOPED THIS WOULD BE BRIEF FORMALITY. ON BOP MEASURES, LONG SUGGESTED GROUP MAY WISH TO ADDRESS FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

(A) SHOULD ARTICLE XII BE CHANGED TO COVER MEASURES OTHER THAN QRS?

(B) HOW CAN PROCEDURES FOR BOP EXAMINATION BE MADE MORE EFFECTIVE?

(C) SHOULD THERE BE UNIFORMITY OF CRITERIA FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 00613 281718Z

EXAMINING DIFFERENT COUNTRIES?

(D) SHOULD THERE BE PRIOR CONSULTATION AND FOLLOW-UP?

(E) SHOULD THE GATT GAIN ACCESS TO IMF CONFIDENTIAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CONSULTING COUNTRIES?

(F) SHOULD BOP COMMITTEE COMPETENCE BE REINFORCED TO ENSURE THAT CPS FOLLOW ITS RECOMMENDATIONS. IF SO, HOW?

EC SOUNDED CAUTIONARY NOTE AND ARGUED THAT THESE MAY BE EXCESSIVE DETAILS FOR GROUP TO CONSIDER. JAPAN AND EGYPT WANTED TO PLACE THIS ITEM FURTHER DOWN THE AGENDA. US SAID WE FEEL ITEM IS IMPORTANT, THAT AGENDA ORDER SHOULD BE KEPT OPEN FOR NOW, AND NOTED WE HOPE CIRCULATE A PAPER ON BOP MATTERS IN ADVANCE OF G-18 MEETING.

2. WITH RESPECT GATT'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE SYSTEM, LONG GAVE EXAMPLES OF SUBJECTS GROUP MAY WISH DISCUSS: EVALUATION IMF JAMAICA MEETING RESULTS, DISCUSSION WORK OF UN TASK FORCE FOLLOWING UP RESULTS OF 7TH SPECIAL SESSION (RESOLUTION 3362), AND WORK OF UN AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RESTRUCTURING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SYSTEM OF UN, DISCUSSION OF CIEC DEVELOPMENTS. (NOTE: IN LATTER RESPECT LONG MADE IT CLEAR THAT DISCUSSION IN G-18 WILL BE IMPORTANT IN DETERMINING ROLE GATT OBSERVERS WILL PLAY AT CIEC COMMISSIONS.) FINALLY, GROUP COULD DISCUSS IMPROVEMENT OF EXISTING PROCEDURES OF GATT, PARTICULARLY PART IV AND CONSULTATION AND DISPUTE SETTLEMENT BETWEEN CPS.

3. DG PROPOSED THAT THIS SAME ITEM 3 INCLUDE DISCUSSION OF BRAZILIAN PROPOSAL FOR REFORM OF TRADING RULES FIRST PRESENTED TO TNC. HE SAID G-18 WAS APPROPRIATE FORUM SINCE MTN INVOLVED WORK OF 20 NON-CPS, WHILE THIS PROPOSAL CONCERNS CPS. (BRAZIL ACCEPTED RPT ACCEPTED PROPOSED DISCUSSION IN G-18 OF THEIR PROPOSAL WITHOUT REFERENCE TO POSITION REPORTED MTN GENEVA 487 AND 545 THAT G-18 COULD NOT BE NEGOTIATING FORUM. ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION UNDER ITEM 3 COULD INCLUDE LDC PREFERENCES, POSSIBLE GATT ROLE IN COMMODITIES, AND ADVISABILITY OF ADOPTING INDIAN PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH "WISE MAN'S" GROUP TO SURVEY LAST 20 YEARS TO DERIVE USEFUL POINTS FOR THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 GENEVA 00613 281718Z

FUTURE.

4. WITH RESPECT ITEMS 3 AND 4 OF AGENDA, LONG STATED G-18 MEETING SHOULD NOT BE AN INVITATION TO DEBATE THE ISSUES WHICH ALREADY BEING DISCUSSED ELSEWHERE BUT RATHER TO GIVE OPPORTUNITY FOR REPS FROM CAPITALS TO RAISE SPECIFIC ISSUES IN TRADE POLICY IN GATT CONEXT. HE SAID OVERALL GOAL WAS TO SEE WHERE THE 18

PUT THEIR PHASES AMONG ALL OF THE ABOVE OR POSSIBLE
OTHER SUBJECTS TO SEE WHAT TO DISCUSS AT FUTURE
MEETINGS. THUS LONG SEES PROGRESSIVE G-18
MEETINGS A SIFTING AND REFINING PROCESS.

5. INDIA SUGGESTED G-18 ALSO DISCUSS IMMEDIATE
MEASURES TO DEAL WITH PLIGHT OF MOST SERIOUSLY
AFFECTED LDCS. US AND EC OPPOSED THIS AS A SEPARATE
AGENDA ITEM AND COMMENTED THAT DISCUSSION OF
JAMAICAN IMF MEETING RESULTS INDICATED ABOVE WOULD
NATURALLY BROACH SUBJECT.

6. ANOTHER MEETING OF LOCAL G-18 REPS IS SCHEDULED
FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18. WE WOULD HOPE U.S.
PAPER ON BOP MATTERS COULD BE RECEIVED IN GENEVA IN
TIME TO BE CIRCULATED AT THAT MEETING AT THE VERY
LATEST. (NOTE: WE WILL SUBMIT COMMENTS
SHORTLY ON DRAFT BOP PAPER JUST CARRIED GENEVA BY
KELLY.) DALE

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